tation also periodically reviews the progress of the projects.

Effective steps are taken to look into the problem areas and remove bottlenecks identified as a result of such monitoring.

Heavy loss on the purchase of crude

2085. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have contracted to buy crude petroleum from the international market at the predetermined price, for a length of time or for total quantity of crude;

(b) if so, what is the price agreed upon;

(c) what is the present price of crude in the various international markets; and

(d) whether Government are at present losing heavily by the above contract; if so, what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): a) (No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The prices of actively traded crudes of interest to us are currently ranging between $ 10.0/bbl to $ 11/bbl.

(d) Does not arise.

Schemes for New industries in backward Districts of Andhra Pradesh

2086. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose any scheme to have new industries in backward districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the districts in which such industries are to be set up and developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Industrialisation is a continuous process. The Central Government helps the State Governments in setting up industries in the Industrially Backward Districts/ Areas by providing certain incentives/concessions.

Under the new Growth Centres Scheme, 4 Growth Centres have been allocated to Andhra Pradsh. These Growth Centres would be provided with funds of the order of Rs. 25-30 crores in order to create infrastructural facilities of a high order. These Centres would act as magnets for attracting Industries to Backward Areas. These Growth Centres would be proposed by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and finally selected by the Central Government.

Concessions to Promote Small Scale Industries

2087. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for certain concessions to promote the setting up of small scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the demand of the small scale industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Government received from time to time letters, memoranda and representations from Small Industry Associations and individual small scale units seeking various types of concessions and facilities including excise duty, customs duty, sales tax, concessional finance reservation of items both for production and purchase waiver of penal interest, power connection, provision of industrial plots and sheds, supply of critical raw materials etc.